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in INDONESIA

December 19, 1948, Holland invaded the Republic of Indonesia with a crushing, sneak attack like Japan's on Pearl Harbor, like Nazi Germany's on Holland itself.

The U.N.-negotiated *Renville* Agreement was trampled. Solemn international discussions were used as cover-up for weeks of Dutch preparation.

Holland, home of Kris Kringle and good cheer, timed its murder for Christmas. World leaders were conveniently dispersed. The U.N. General Assembly had adjourned. So had the U. S. Congress.

In Indonesia itself, the Dutch first cut off the U.N. delegation's telegraph lines, then "notified" it. Elaborate deceptions kept Republicans off guard.

Then the Dutch struck without mercy or honor, but with American-manufactured planes, tanks, guns.

These pages tell:

- THE LONGER STORY OF DUTCH TREACHERY
- THE STORY OF WHY THE REPUBLIC WILL NEVER QUIT
- THE STORY OF WHY THE DUTCH CAN NEVER WIN

The Netherlands lately and always has promised Indonesian independence in words, brutally suppressed it in fact.

THE RENVILLE AGREEMENT, JAN. 17, 1948

- promise** — free plebiscites within six months to a year in areas claimed by both sides; a constituent convention; an all-Indonesia legislature; voluntary Dutch-Indonesian union. On Feb. 3, 1948, Queen Wilhelmina broadcast to the world; “Colonialism is dead.”
- deed...** — all-out invasion on Dec. 19, 1948; complete sea blockade of Republican trade for 2½ years, even on essential imports like medical supplies.

THE LINGGADJATI AGREEMENT, MARCH 1947

- promise** — a sovereign United States of Indonesia by January 1949; guarantee of Indonesian rights in interim period; voluntary Dutch-Indonesian union.
- deed...** — all-out invasion on July 20, 1947, stopped short of complete destruction of the Republic only by Security Council cease-fire order; refusal to implement Agreement because of “re-interpretation”; sea blockade.

POST-SURRENDER PERIOD, AUGUST 1945

- promise** — constitutional reform; new era.
- deed...** — immediate mobilization of war-starved Dutch reservists for invasion service in Indonesia; dispatch of 120,000 troops over the next year or two.

QUEEN WILHELMINA’S WAR-TIME PLEDGE, DEC. 6, 1942

- promise** — a post-war conference leading to . . . “a commonwealth in which the Netherlands, Indonesia, Surinam and Curacao will participate.”
- deed...** — pre-war refusal to train Indonesians militarily for their own defense; post-war use of armed force to restore Dutch power.

The direct, Hitler-like rupture of the Renville Agreement is the most recent case in point.

- promise** — The Renville Agreement, Jan. 17, 1948, reached through the U.N. Good Offices Committee, with especial U. S. encouragement, stipulated in particular; “10.) This agreement shall be considered binding unless one party notifies the Committee of Good Offices and the other party that it considers the truce regulations are not being observed by the other party and that this agreement should therefore be terminated.”

In general, it provided a military truce and a set of 18 political principles as a basis for final settlement.

- deed...** — The Dutch “notified” the Committee and the Republic of their Dec. 19 invasion just as it began. Telegraph facilities of both were cut in advance, eliminating U.N. communications.

The Linggadjati Agreement, March 1947, was likewise breached by a bloody, unheralded invasion during negotiations on its implementation.

promise — After hysterical, false denunciation of the Republic as Japanese-created, terror by Dutch forces and establishment of Dutch-controlled “independent” states outside the Republic had all failed to break it, the Dutch next tried negotiation.

The Linggadjati Agreement, which resulted, guaranteed Indonesian freedom, with something like dominion status. It also provided an interim period during which a mixed Dutch-Indonesian administration would prepare for the transfer of power. Furthermore, it gave formal Dutch recognition of the Republic as the *de facto* authority in Java, Sumatra and Madura, the three main islands.

deed... — The agreement reached was 90% Dutch, but the Republic accepted it to facilitate a quick settlement. This was in June 1946. Republicans were assured Dutch ratification was a matter of a few days or weeks. Actually, it was March 1947 before Dutch signatures were affixed. The intervening months were occupied with Dutch obstruction and attempts to force new proposals on the Republic.

Both before and after signing, Holland repeatedly ignored the Agreement, occupying major Republican cities, bringing in 120,000 troops, 30,000 more than previously agreed. Dutch “interpretations” of their commitments were so extensive that even after the signing, implementation was impossible. Negotiation continued.

At midnight July 20, 1947, while Republican leaders awaited reply to their latest formal communication, they were abruptly notified of suspension of the Agreement. Simultaneously, full-scale war was launched. It ended only when the Security Council issued a cease-fire order some days later.

By that time, Holland had what it wanted most, the richest producing areas of the Republic.

Before, during, and just after the War, Holland volubly promised freedom, belied itself in action.

promise — The famous Visman Report of 1941 supposedly laid the technical base for it; Queen Wilhelmina’s speech of December 1942 pledged it; Dutch utterances just after the surrender of Japan seemed to assume it.

deed... — The Visman Report provided excuse for years of delay, while being made; Dutch administration and weakness left Indonesia defenseless before Japan. After the war, Holland left no effort undone to thwart, then destroy the universal vehicle of Indonesian independence — the Republic.

These infamies against 70,000,000 peaceful, long-suffering Indonesians — and against the United Nations — spring inevitably from the faithless Dutch repression of three centuries.

- * Dutch double-talk notwithstanding, the cornerstone of all democracy, universal literacy, was effectively prevented. Funds were never assigned, teachers never developed for mass education. Pleading poverty in the world's richest colony, Dutchmen developed only specialized schools for Indonesian aristocrats' sons and daughters, who learned obedience along with their 3 R's and in higher education.
- * Mass organizations were unceasingly harassed. Nationalist leaders, including those who head the Republic today and many others who did not survive, were exiled for years at a time to remote swamps and jungles, often killed.
- * A nominal *People's Council* or *Volksraad* before the war was subject to the veto of both Governor General and the Dutch Parliament. Even then a high proportion of its members were appointed, not elected. And on top of that, those elected were chosen by a system of suffrage so indirect as to be meaningless.
- * Brutality like that of the Nazis at Lidice was meted out when the cup of slavery ran over and an uprising occurred. In 1926 whole districts of villages in Java were burned to the ground, the inhabitants murdered by fully equipped Dutch troops. In 1947 some 30,000 Indonesians were massacred in Macassar, Celebes.

Under its masquerade of paternalistic colonizer, Holland's program was extremely simple — self-enrichment.

- * Indonesia was a vast treasure-house and workshop where 70,000,000 lived at subsistence level, their output streaming to the profit of a minority in Holland's 9,500,000 population.
 - 15% of Holland's national income.
 - \$200,000,000 per year in straight profits (which made up annual Dutch foreign exchange deficit).
 - \$4,000,000,000 invested Dutch capital in Indonesia.
 - The average income of a family of five Indonesians was 15-30 cents per day.
 - 400,000 Dutch persons possessing a vested interest in Indonesia as a colony.
 - Complete Dutch monopoly of Indonesian trade, excluding U. S. and others.

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